

GOLF.

SHINNECOCK'S BIG TOURNAMENT TO BEGIN TO-MORROW.

PLAYERS ALREADY FLOCKING TO THE COURSE.—HARRIMAN, TRAVIS AND TYNG AMONG THE NOTABLE ENTRIES.—GOSPEL FROM VARIOUS LINKS.

The exodus of golf players toward Southampton, the scene of the week's big tournament, has already begun. Many of the contestants started on Saturday, in order to have a preliminary round over the course before the actual race begins, and more will go by the morning train to-day. The man who is fortunate enough to be honored with an invitation from Shinnecock Hills is not likely to treat the invitation lightly, and there will be few defaults when play is started to-morrow.

The tournament is the most important of the summer season, not merely because of the number who take part, but because it brings together practically all of the players who have won renown in this part of the country, and for this reason it might well be called an Eastern championship. Among those who will be seen in the preliminary round to-morrow are Herbert M. Harriman, the new American champion; James A. Tyng, the Morris County champion; Charles A. Robinson, champion of the New York State Amateur; St. Andrews, R. C. Watson, Jr., of Westchester; Howard A. Colby, of the New York State Amateur; Owen Winston, of Westchester; and T. M. Robertson and George A. Smith, of the New York State Amateur. The tournament will continue throughout the entire week, closing on Saturday with the Shinnecock Handicap, in which the winner makes the trophy. The club, and the one making the best gross score, will receive a silver cup, the gift of the Board of Governors.

Of the many golf courses which have been laid out near New York there is none whose situation conforms so closely to the ideal as that of Shinnecock, and the competitors this week are assured every opportunity for satisfactory play. In spite of what human skill and ingenuity can accomplish with inland ground the true links must always be found by the sea, and in this respect the rolling sand dunes at Shinnecock conform more nearly to the old Scotch idea of what a links should be than any in the country. As a club Shinnecock Hills possesses the distinction of being the second organization to take up golf in the United States, and ever since 1890, when the original links was established, improvements and alterations have been adding to the beauty and interest of the course, and this week will find the essentially championship stretch of country.

At first the club contented itself with nine holes. In fact, an eighteen hole course was unheard of in those days. Later, however, as the game grew in popularity, these facilities were found inadequate, and three more holes were added. This number was further increased, until now the club has full eighteen hole circuit of 5,345 yards. The broad verandas extending entirely around it, and the whole crowning one of the higher knolls, with which the dunes are filled. Every nook and corner of its 1,200 acres is being made to provide accommodation for the visitors this week, for more than a hundred players are to be entered, and the country of the tournament, the locker rooms, the men's and women's reception rooms, the locker rooms and showers, while the second story of the clubhouse is being converted into a sleeping quarters, as well as the servants' quarters.

Topographically speaking, the house faces the south, where from the upper windows the whole coastline can be seen spreading out before the eye. Shinnecock is the old Indian name given to the narrow neck of land running out on the southern end of Long Island between Good Ground and Southampton. From the club piazzas, therefore, one has a view of the placid waters of Peconic Bay, while on the opposite side is Shinnecock Bay, with the ocean reaching out to the club beyond. Added to its attractive situation, the clubhouse, which is a two-story building, is a fine example of the architecture of the period, and the clubhouse is a fine example of the architecture of the period, and the clubhouse is a fine example of the architecture of the period.

The preliminary round to-morrow is to be at thirty-five holes, the first sixteen to qualify for the chief trophy, the second eight for qualification cup, and the last eight for the trophy. It expects a large entry list. The final match, which will be played on Thursday, will be an interesting match, each club entering a team of four players, for whom there will be individual trophies.

"The organization of so many new golf clubs this season brings up the old law of the survival of the fittest," said a golf player who is well informed about the financial condition of some of the leading clubs the other day. "Admittedly, the game has been popular and astonishingly so, but not many people are playing this season who have simply handed a club before. Things have simplified down a little, and are assuming a more rational condition. The establishment of new clubs, therefore, usually means a withdrawal of support from some organization already in existence. This is not always the case, but it happens often enough to set some governing committee to thinking."

Men who are content to play golf for the sake of looking for links nearer home. When there were fewer clubs players had to choose between going some distance for a match or foregoing the game altogether. This is no longer true now. Every suburban resort is a golf course, and the natural consequence is that men who have belonged to other clubs at a distance are inclined to withdraw and support the home organization. They want their round of golf after getting home from business and before their dinner hour, and the course nearest home is the one they will go to. Accessibility is becoming a prime requisite of a golf club. If a link cannot be reached with comfort, a case case players will go to one that can. The clubs which have no local colony to draw from are beginning to see this tendency with alarm, and are making their ultimate decision to build a new club, or to move to a more favorable location. Several where enormous outlay has been made for buildings and grounds, and yet the local support can reach it. It is a fact that the local support is small, and that the club is not a success. Those whose local support is small are ultimately going to be disappointed, and those who are not so fortunately situated are finding that they must retreat or be crowded from the field."

The golf season at Newport is now at its height. The links is becoming the rendezvous for an increasing number of automobiles, who combine the pleasures of golf with those of a motor trip. The houses have been the scene of many gay gatherings, and for the social side must necessarily predominate even in sports at Newport. The annual election of officers will take place in a few days, and the Nominating Committee has chosen the following men to serve for the coming year: President, Buchanan Whitnorr; vice-president, William R. Travers; Board of Governors, Robert L. Gamble, John B. Vinton, Victor M. Smith, and George Peabody Wetmore. "Willie" Davis, who has been with the club since its organization, remains as professional, but this year the number of players has been so small that he has been asked to assist. Donald Bell, who lately arrived from England. Two new players, who were asked to be missed from the summer. A. M. Coates, one of the best players in the club, and W. Butler, who has been playing for some time, are both abroad, and will be absent most of the season.

The recent destruction of the clubhouse of the Kebo Valley Country Club, at Bar Harbor, will not affect the matches arranged for the summer, and play will be continued without interruption. T. G. Condon, of this city, one of the club's directors, has offered a cup for the men, and Miss Draper has offered a silver cup for a series of women's handicap competitions. Craig Lippincott, of Philadelphia, also has presented two trophies for a mixed foursome tournament. The most important contest of the season will be the annual open tournament of the club in August, for which A. Howard Hinkle, who presented the chief trophy last year, has offered the prize. Other Maine courses are hardly less attractive just now. At Islesboro, on the line of the Portland and Mount Desert steamers, the Terrace Golf Club has laid out nine holes, and a very popular course. At the D. Winsor, Jr., the crack high jumper of the University of Pennsylvania, holds the amateur record for it at 25. The club is a very popular one, and is in charge of the links, and it need not be added that his personal popularity among players at large will be potent factor in making the matches so alluring by the presence of many visiting players.

FRANK C. IVES MUST PAY HIS FINE. Some time ago Frank C. Ives, the billiard expert, was arrested and prosecuted by Chief Fish and Game Protector Pond for hounding deer in the Adirondack Mountains. The case was won by Protector Pond, but was carried to the Court of Appeals. A decision has just been handed down affirming the original judgment in favor of the State. Ives must pay a fine of \$250, and costs of \$100, and a \$250 cost of action.

AT THE CONEY ISLAND CLUB TO-NIGHT. Frank Childs, the colored heavyweight, and George Byers, the colored middleweight, will meet in a twenty-five round bout at the Coney Island Sporting Club to-night. The preliminary will be a fifteen round contest between "Denver Ed" Martin and "Charlie" Stevenson.

THE COLUMBIA AT BRISTOL. Bristol, R. I., July 23.—The Columbia came up from Newport this afternoon in tow of her tender, and anchored about half a mile off the Herreshoff dock. The new steel mast is completed and ready for setting, but for a short distance, that her underbody may be cleaned. The crane for hauling her out is all ready, and it is expected that as soon as her pine mast is taken out she will be hauled up for her cleaning. The steel mast will be hauled at a mile, ever known in this country, which is expected to be about Wednesday. It is expected that the changes in her rigging will be completed by Friday, and that she will be ready to race the Defender again on Saturday off Newport.

AMERICAN ROYAL GARDEN CLOSED. It has been decided by the management to close the American Theatre-roof garden. After the performance last Saturday night the doors were closed for the season.

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THE UNITED IRISH AMERICAN SOCIETY. Delegates from a hundred Irish societies met last night in the Utropean Assembly Rooms. Third-year and Fifty-fifth, and organized the United Irish American Society. The objects of the new society, as set forth in the constitution adopted, are closer union of the Irish people and their general advancement. Colonel D. C. McCarthy presided at the meeting. It was an executive session and did not adjourn until after midnight. The society will be governed by an Executive Committee, to consist of a delegate from each of the affiliated bodies. This committee will meet at stated periods and then elect its own officers for that meeting. In addition to this committee there are the following officers, who were elected last night: Treasurer, Michael J. Kennedy, State delegate of the Ancient Order of Hibernians; Patrick J. Griffin, of the Gaelic League; and John J. Malone, of the Cork Men's Association; financial secretary, Daniel Bacon, of the West Meath Men's Association; secretary, Edward C. O'Brien, of the Cork Men's Association. While the purpose of the new society as described in its constitution are identical with those of nearly all the affiliated societies, it was learned from a trustworthy source that the new organization is primarily formed for political purposes.

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